REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 24 and 25 stand objected to upon informalities. Claims 1-23 stand rejected on prior art grounds. In addition, the drawings are objected to. Applicants respectfully traverse these objection/rejections based on the following discussion.

I. The Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Emery (US Patent 5,727,057). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections based on the following discussion.

A. The Rejection Based on Emery

Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentable over Emery because the system in Emery only identifies database items that are within a certain radius of the mobile telephone, while the invention goes further and sorts the "document database in a shortest-distance-first order."

More specifically, with the invention, the distance is a metric expressed in either a physical dimension (miles, degrees latitude/longitude) or a logical dimension (number of street blocks, number of network hops). Once the documents are retrieved from the Document Database 130, they are sorted according to distance and presented to the user (step 5). A shortest-distance-first sort order allows the Presenter 150 to display those documents first that are most closely (distance-wise) related to the user's current location. For instance, a user on a business trip will find his/her cellular phone directory displayed so that numbers residing in the same area code as the user's current location will be listed first. This greatly reduces the effort required to find the local phone numbers of the user's business partners. (Application, page 9,

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lines 6-20).

If the user's Document Database contains data from external databases (e.g., commercial establishment directories, restaurant guides, and travel guides) that data is also sorted and made easy to access based on the user's location. A typical example of this capability is to list the names and telephone numbers of restaurants in the user' s vicinity. Listing the addresses and telephone numbers of nearby hospitals, retail stores, and concert and sports venues would also be made possible by the capability to sort by distance.

To the contrary, Emery explains that for direction services, a composite query has to be formulated which would first query the Database for the subscriber's geographic location identifier and then use this ID to query for other location identifiers. Emery's system is used to demonstrate finding the locations of all establishments offering a specified type of business within an X meter radius (Emery, col. 8, lines 39-46). Similarly, in column 11, lines 58-67, Emery explains that the user can find locations relative to a location that the user is not present in. For example, the service could be used to locate restaurants in downtown Chicago in an n-sized radius from the DN at 1000 ABC Street, Chicago. The Services System formulates the database query at step 410. This query is then processed against the telephony location Database at step 411. The Database System at step 414 retrieves all geographical Location IDs from the database that satisfy the query criteria. Depending on the Database schema, the address, DN and other information about the geographical Location IDs that fit the query criteria can be either retrieved from the same database, or using the geographical Location ID as an index into the administrative or address database, the address and other pertinent information can be retrieved.

To the contrary, the invention goes beyond this teaching in Emery and sorts the document database in a shortest-distance-first order based on the distance between the location of the CWC and location identifiers associated with datum in the document database. This feature is clearly defined by independent claims 1, 10, and 23 (and similarly defined in independent claim 18). For example, independent claims 1, 10, and 23 define "sorting said document database in a shortest-distance-first order based on a distance between said location of said CWC and said location identifiers associated with said datum in said document database." Therefore, it is Applicants'

position that independent claims 1, 10, 18, and 23 are patentable over the prior art of record. Dependent claims 2-9, 11-17, 19-22, 24, and 25 are similarly patentable, not only by virtue of their dependency from a patentable independent claim, but also by virtue of the additional features of the invention they define. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

II.   Formal Matters and Conclusion

With respect to the objection to the drawings, a Submission of Corrected Formal drawings (adding identifier 100 to Figure 2) is submitted herewith. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the objections/rejections to the claims and drawings.
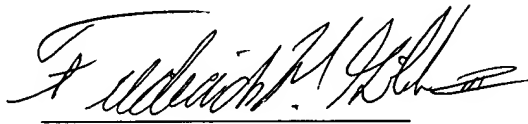
Applicants submit that claims 1-25, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 09-0441.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/20/04

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